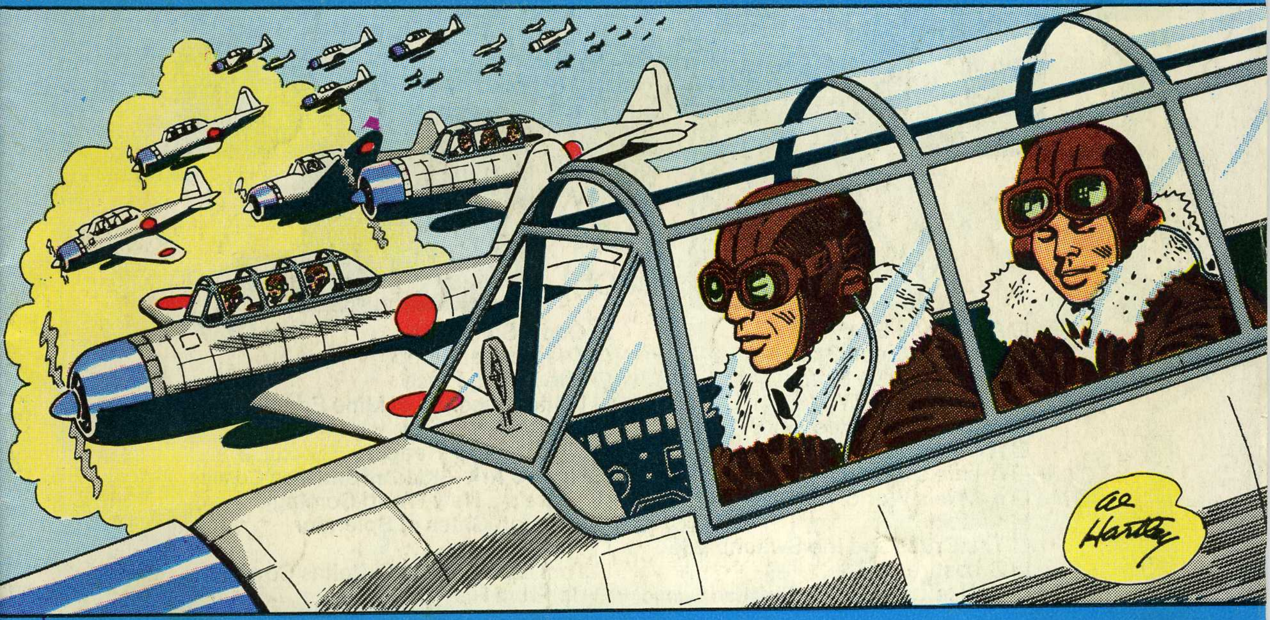
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ATTACK!

39¢

by MITSUO FUCHIDA as told to ELIZABETH SHERRILL and AL HARTLEY





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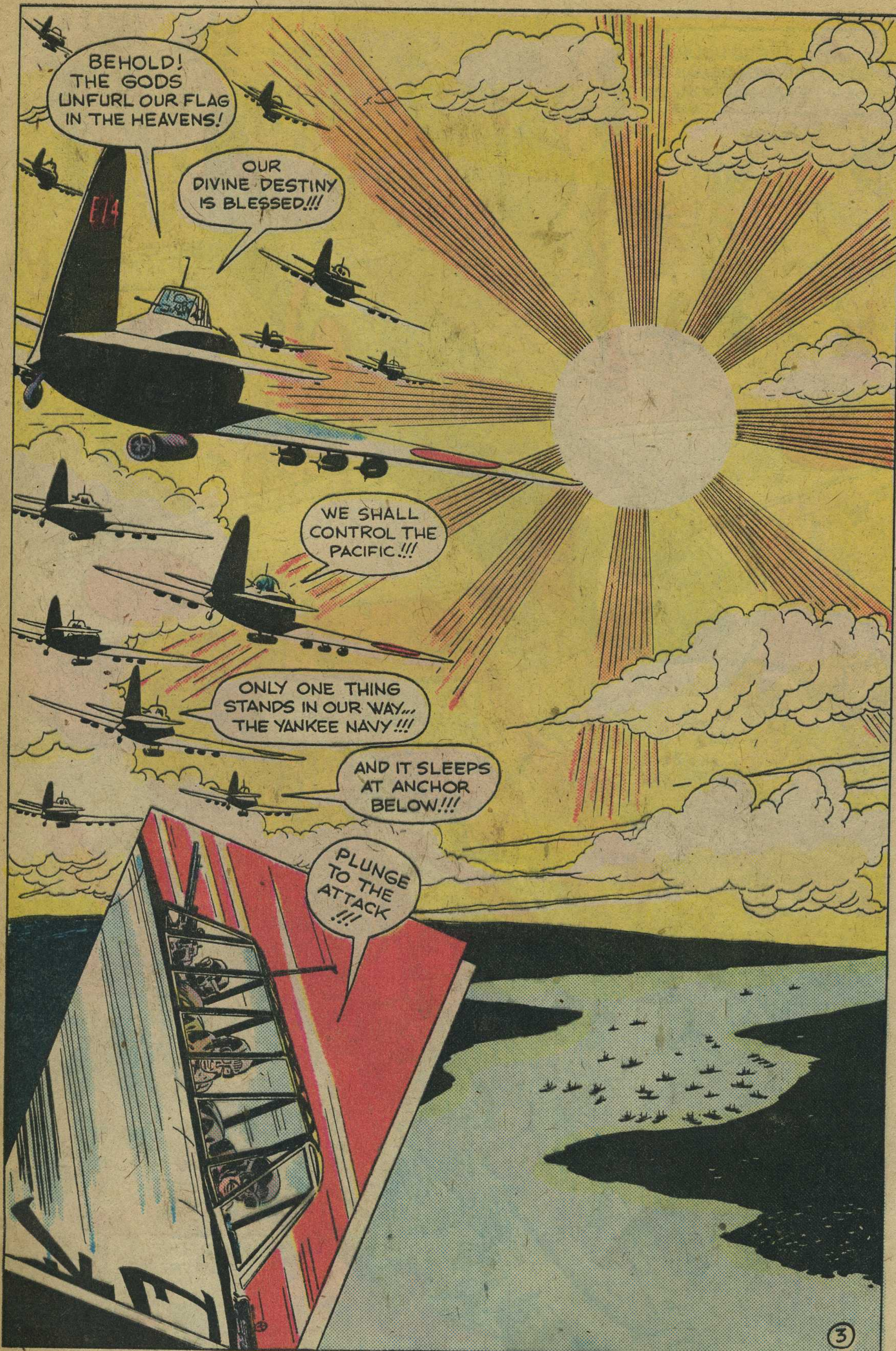
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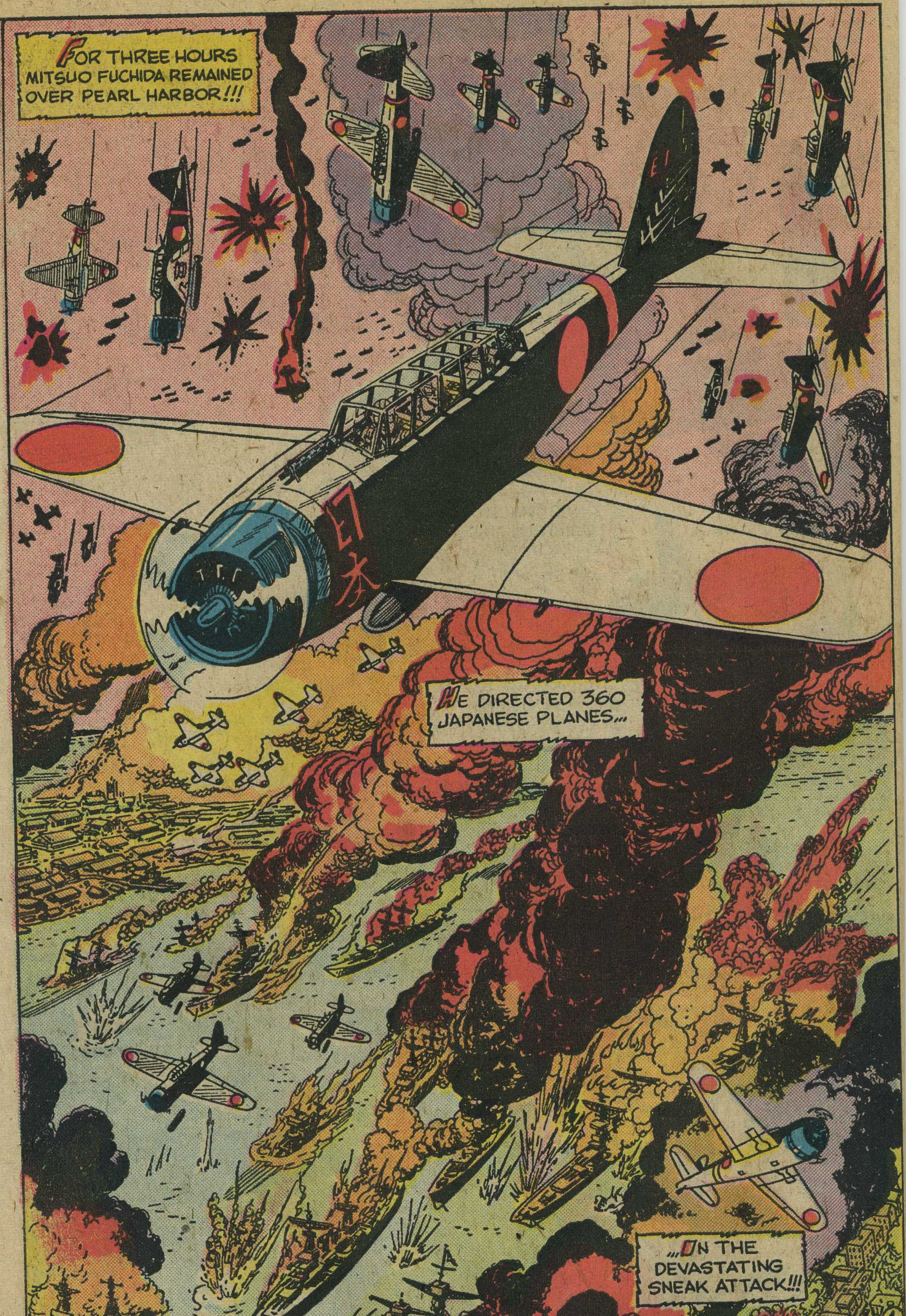


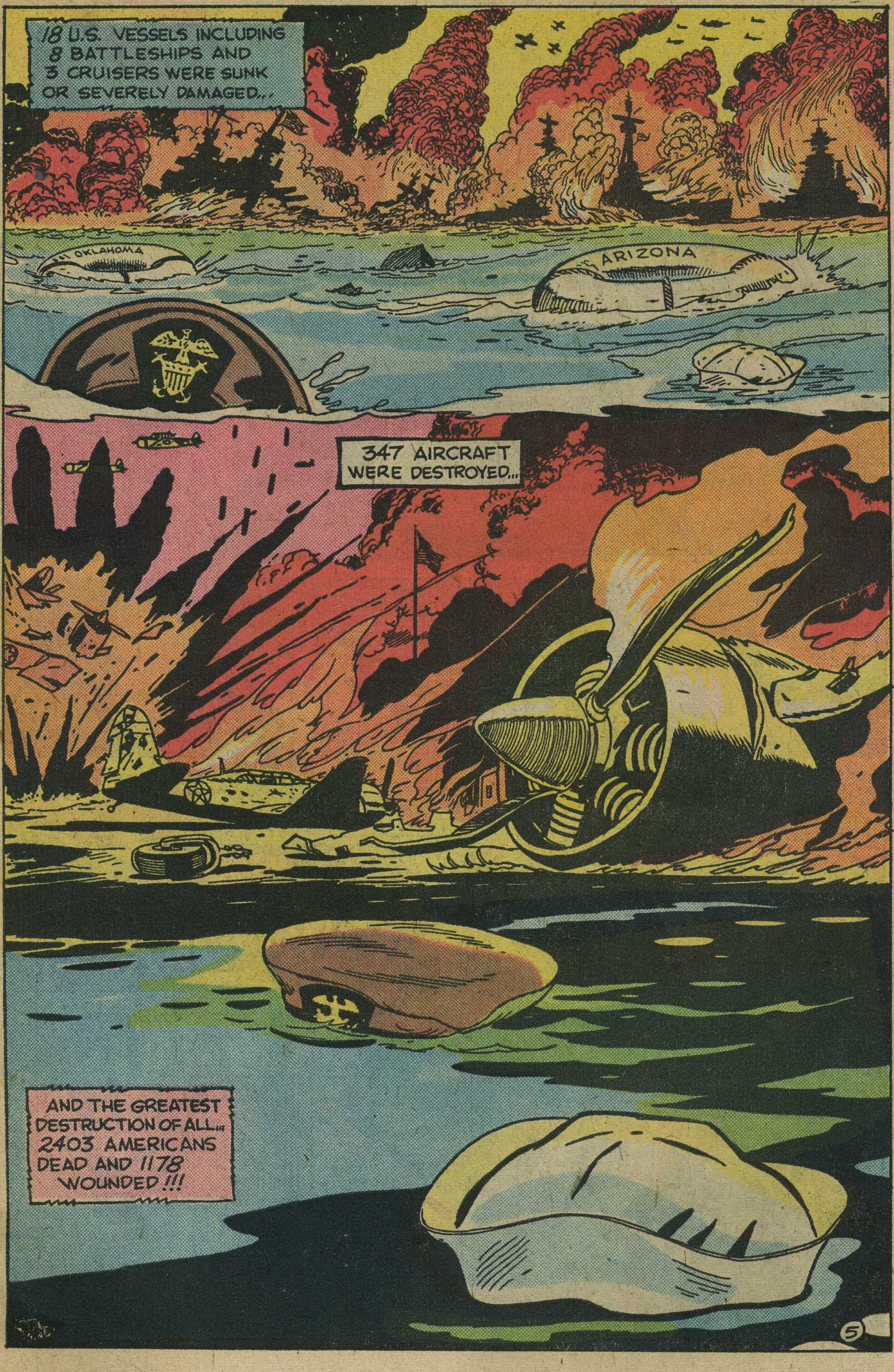
DECEMBER 7, 1941... 230 MILES FROM PEARL HARBOR...
HOLD! THE WEATHER IS WRONG !!!
BUT WE ARE RIGHT !!!
WAIT! FLYING CONDITIONS MUST IMPROVE!
IF WE DELAY, WE WILL BE DISCOVERED !!!
AND OUR MISSION DEPENDS ON SURPRISE !!!
ATTACK!
E 115
FUCHIDA
1


BUT WE DEFY THE GODS!!!
THE GODS ARE WITH US!!!
MITSUO FUCHIDA! JAPAN'S NUMBER ONE AVIATOR...
WE SHALL DESTROY THE UNITED STATES FLEET!
EVERY PROPELLER IS A SAMURAI SWORD!!!
I FEAR THEY MAY BE HARI-KARI BLADES!!!
WE CANNOT HOLD FORMATION IN THESE CLOUDS!!!
FLY CLOSER!!!
THE GODS SHALL LEAD US!!!
2



BEHOLD! THE GODS UNFURL OUR FLAG IN THE HEAVENS!
OUR DIVINE DESTINY IS BLESSED!!!
WE SHALL CONTROL THE PACIFIC!!!
ONLY ONE THING STANDS IN OUR WAY... THE YANKEE NAVY!!!
AND IT SLEEPS AT ANCHOR BELOW!!!
PLUNGE TO THE ATTACK!!!
3


FOR THREE HOURS MITSUO FUCHIDA REMAINED OVER PEARL HARBOR!!!
HE DIRECTED 360 JAPANESE PLANES...
...ON THE DEVASTATING SNEAK ATTACK!!!
4

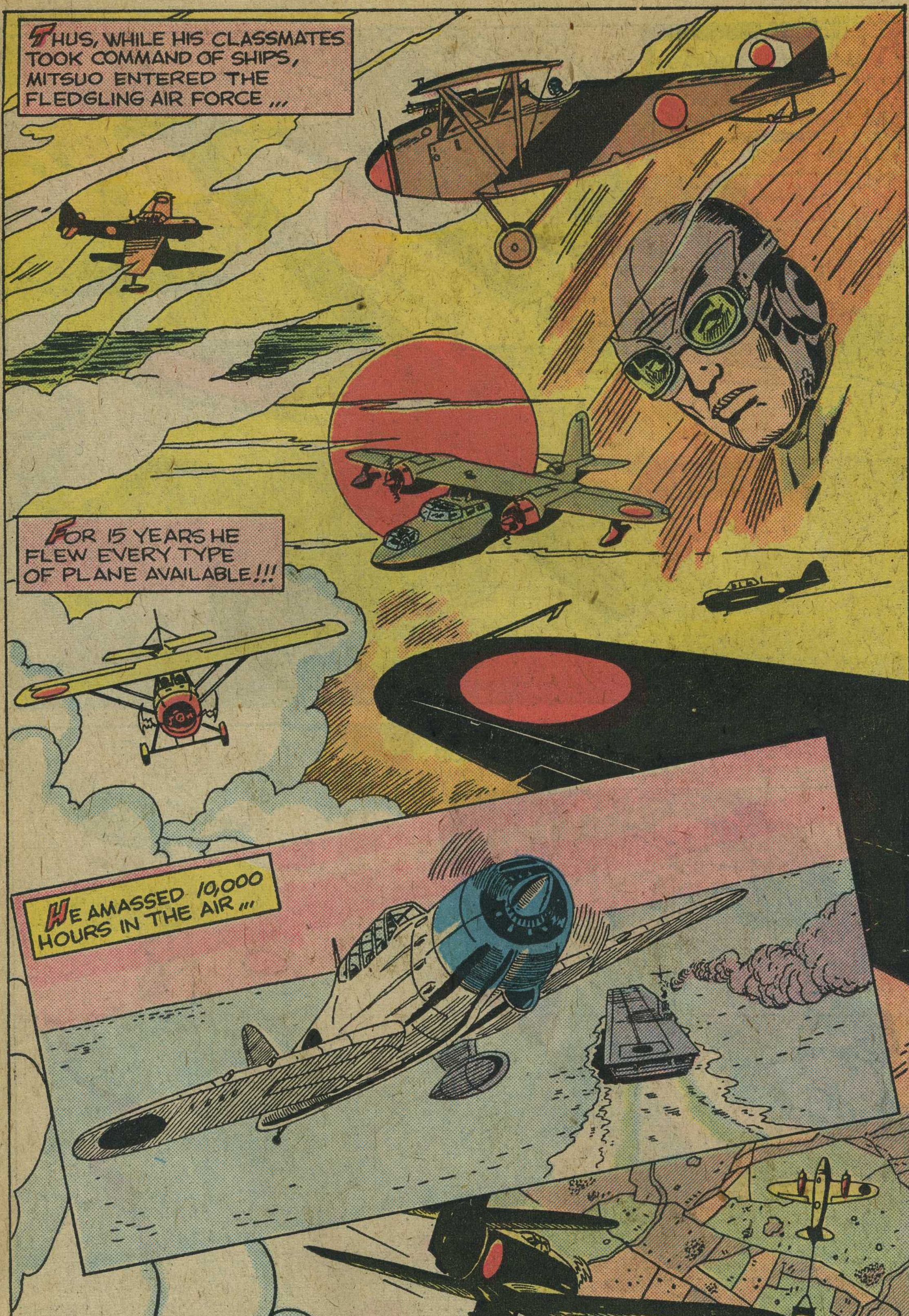

18 U.S. VESSELS INCLUDING 8 BATTLESHIPS AND 3 CRUISERS WERE SUNK OR SEVERELY DAMAGED...
OKLAHOMA
ARIZONA
347 AIRCRAFT WERE DESTROYED...
AND THE GREATEST DESTRUCTION OF ALL... 2403 AMERICANS DEAD AND 1178 WOUNDED!!!
5

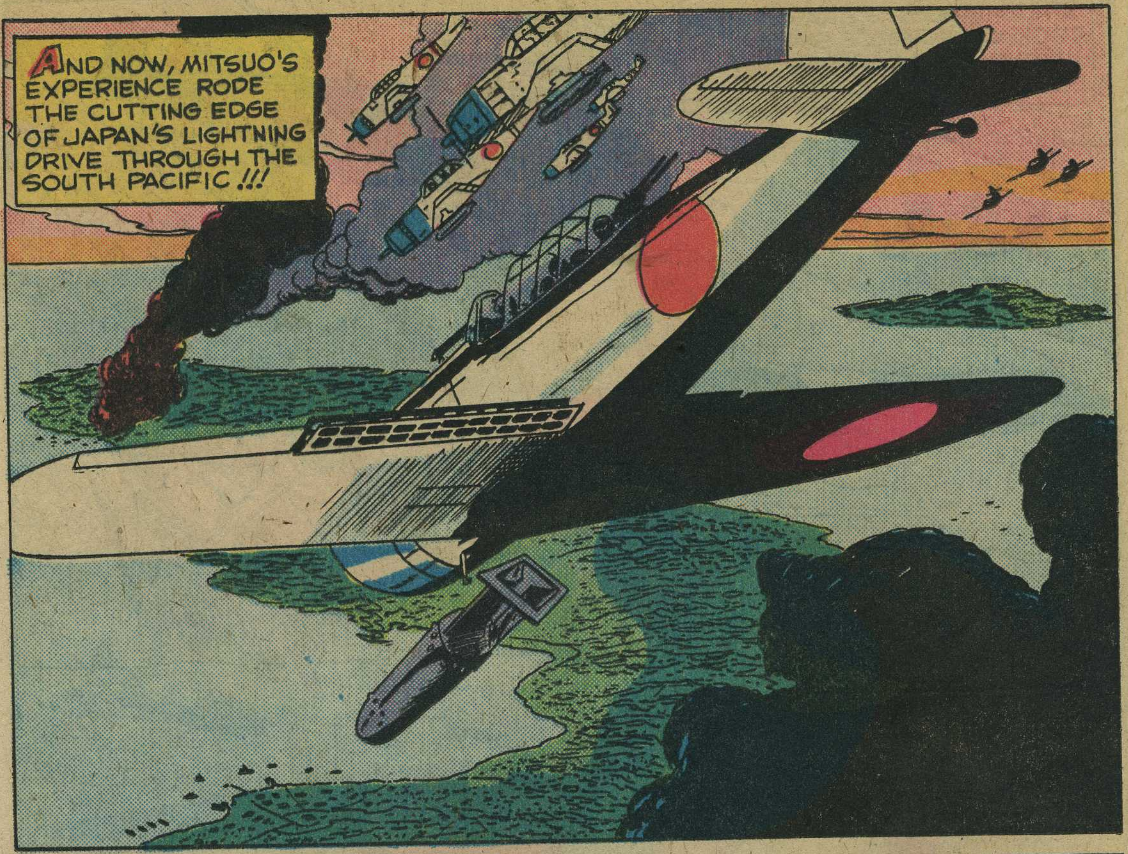


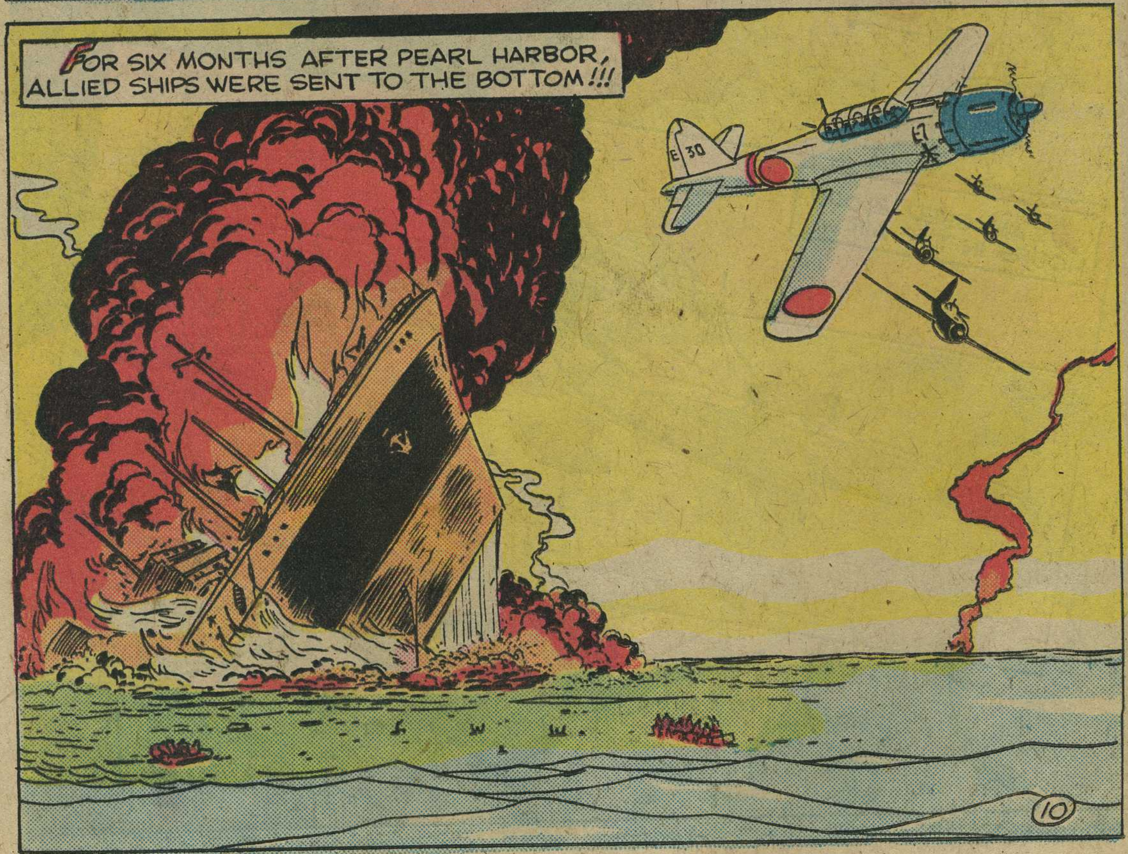
MITSUO FUCHIDA RETURNED A HERO!!!
ALL JAPAN ACCLAIMED HIM!!!
FINAL
TOKYO TIMES
U.S. FLEET DESTROYED!
HERO COMES HOME!
BATTLESHIPS SUNK IN PEARL HARBOR!
MITSUO FUCHIDA
HE WAS DECORATED BY HIS EMPEROR!!!

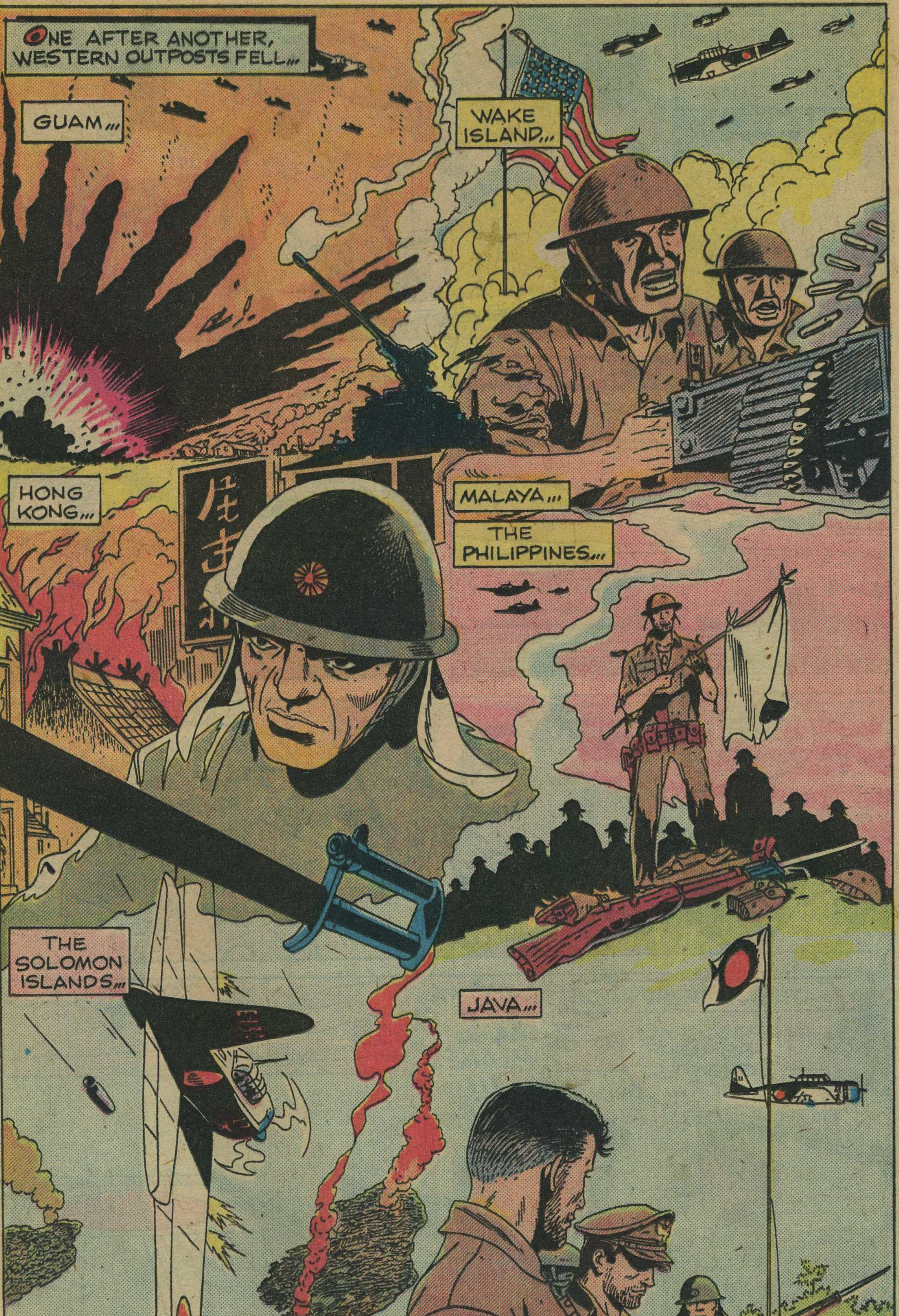

TRULY A DREAM HAD COME TRUE FOR MITSUO AND ALL JAPAN...
MITSUO REMEMBERS A GREAT NATIONAL EXCITEMENT WHEN HE WAS ONLY THREE YEARS OLD...
NEWS
THE PICTURE NEWSPAPER
RUSSIAN FLEET DESTROYED!
JAPAN HAD JUST DEFEATED RUSSIA WITH ONE STROKE... A DARING SURPRISE ATTACK FROM THE SEA !!!
MITSUO READ ALL HE COULD FIND ABOUT THE HERO OF THAT SEA ACTION... ADMIRAL TOGO !!!
TOGO
AND MITSUO'S FUTURE WAS SET... HE WOULD BECOME ANOTHER ADMIRAL TOGO FOR HIS BELOVED COUNTRY !!!
7


CLOSE YOUR BOOKS, MITSUO... YOU'VE STUDIED LONG ENOUGH !!!
A TEACHER'S SON CANNOT ASPIRE TO OUR NAVAL ACADEMY... UNLESS HE EXCELS !!!
TOGO
MITSUO MADE THE ACADEMY... AND QUICKLY SAW THE WINGS OF THE FUTURE !!!
AIRCRAFT WILL WIN THE NEXT WAR...
...NOT SHIPS, MY HONORABLE ADMIRAL!!!
ADMIRAL TOGO 1847 · 1934
8

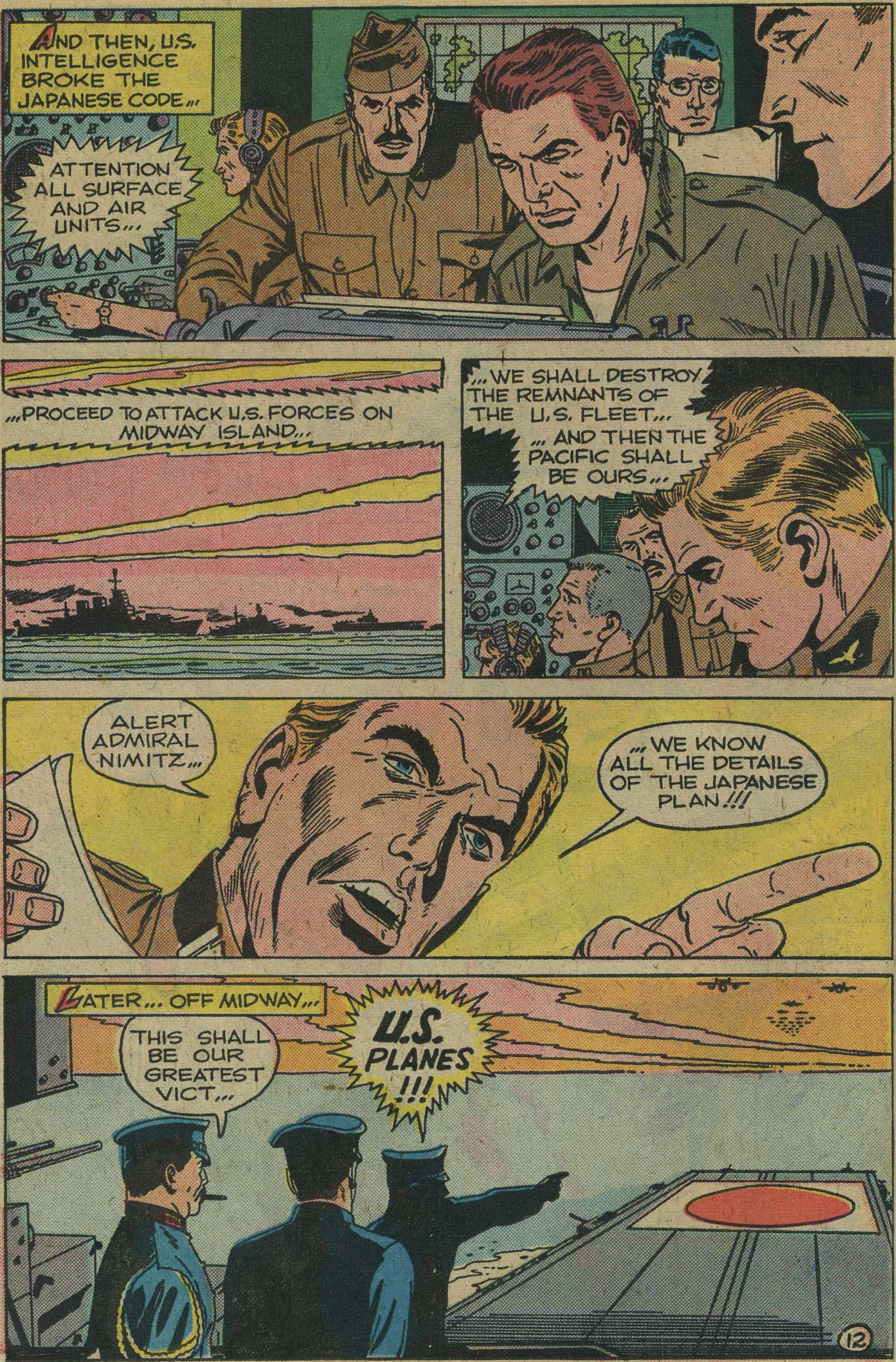

THUS, WHILE HIS CLASSMATES TOOK COMMAND OF SHIPS, MITSUO ENTERED THE FLEDGLING AIR FORCE ...
FOR 15 YEARS HE FLEW EVERY TYPE OF PLANE AVAILABLE!!!
HE AMASSED 10,000 HOURS IN THE AIR ...
9


AND NOW, MITSUO'S EXPERIENCE RODE THE CUTTING EDGE OF JAPAN'S LIGHTNING DRIVE THROUGH THE SOUTH PACIFIC !!!


FOR SIX MONTHS AFTER PEARL HARBOR, ALLIED SHIPS WERE SENT TO THE BOTTOM !!!
E 30
10

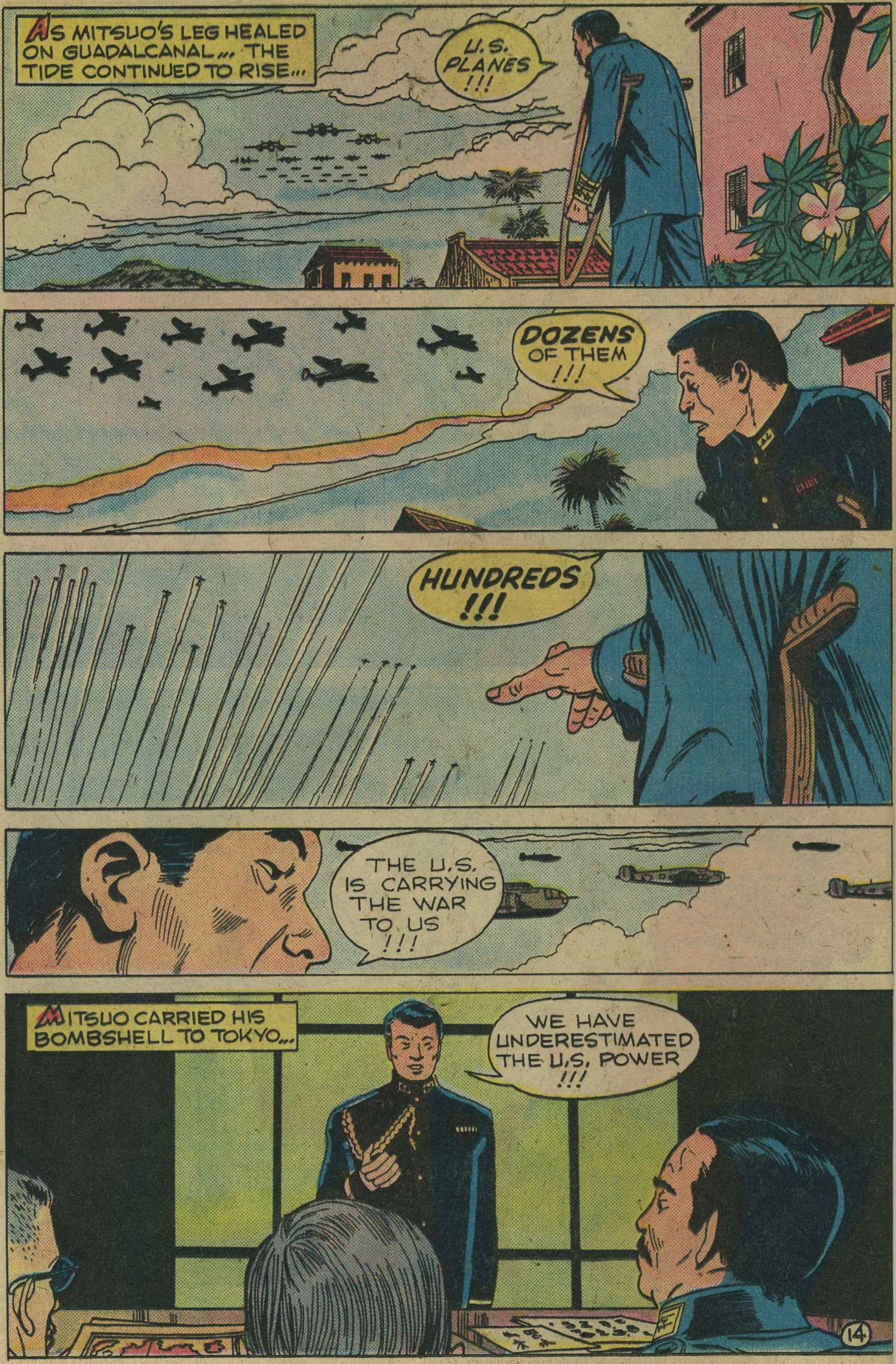


ONE AFTER ANOTHER, WESTERN OUTPOSTS FELL...
GUAM...
WAKE ISLAND...
HONG KONG...
MALAYA...
THE PHILIPPINES...
THE SOLOMON ISLANDS...
JAVA...


AND THEN, U.S. INTELLIGENCE BROKE THE JAPANESE CODE...
ATTENTION ALL SURFACE AND AIR UNITS...
...PROCEED TO ATTACK U.S. FORCES ON MIDWAY ISLAND...
...WE SHALL DESTROY THE REMNANTS OF THE U.S. FLEET...
...AND THEN THE PACIFIC SHALL BE OURS...
ALERT ADMIRAL NIMITZ...
...WE KNOW ALL THE DETAILS OF THE JAPANESE PLAN!!!
LATER... OFF MIDWAY...
THIS SHALL BE OUR GREATEST VICT...
U.S. PLANES!!!
12

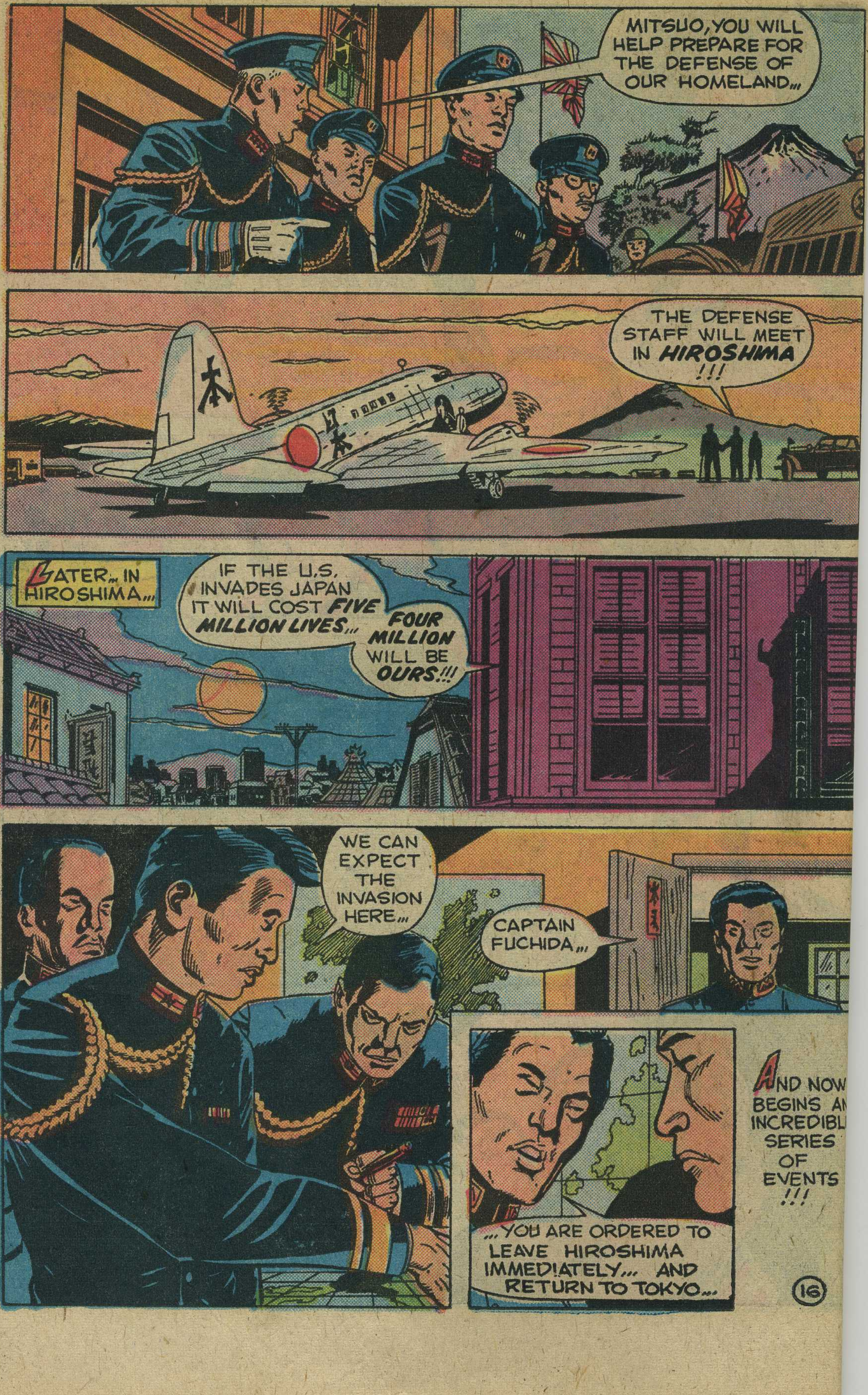

HOW DID THEY FIND US ???

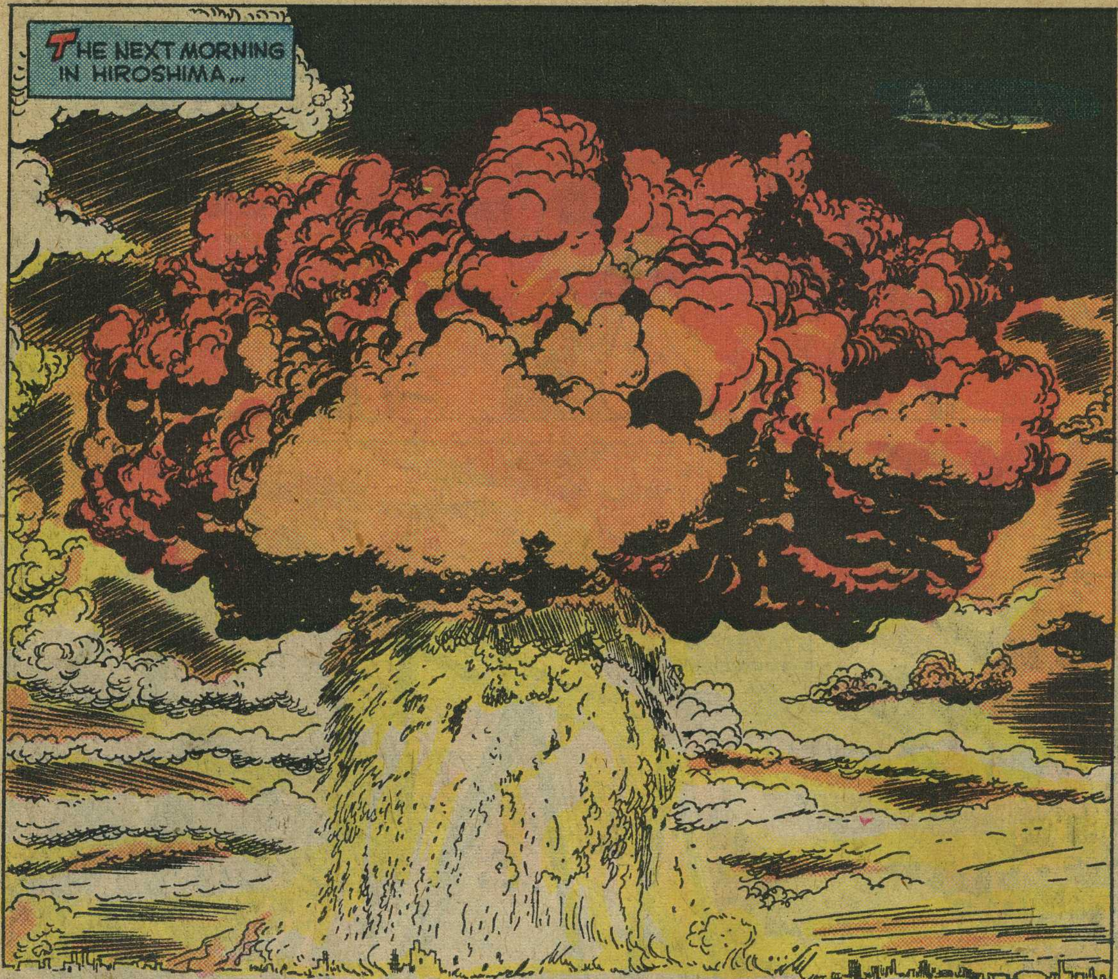

ALL FOUR OF THE BIG JAPANESE CARRIERS WERE SUNK BY U.S. PLANES !!!
MY LEG IS BROKEN !!!
THE PACIFIC TIDE HAD TURNED!!!
13



AS MITSUO'S LEG HEALED ON GUADALCANAL... THE TIDE CONTINUED TO RISE...
U.S. PLANES !!!
DOZENS OF THEM !!!
HUNDREDS !!!
THE U.S. IS CARRYING THE WAR TO US !!!
MITSUO CARRIED HIS BOMBSHELL TO TOKYO...
WE HAVE UNDERESTIMATED THE U.S. POWER !!!
14

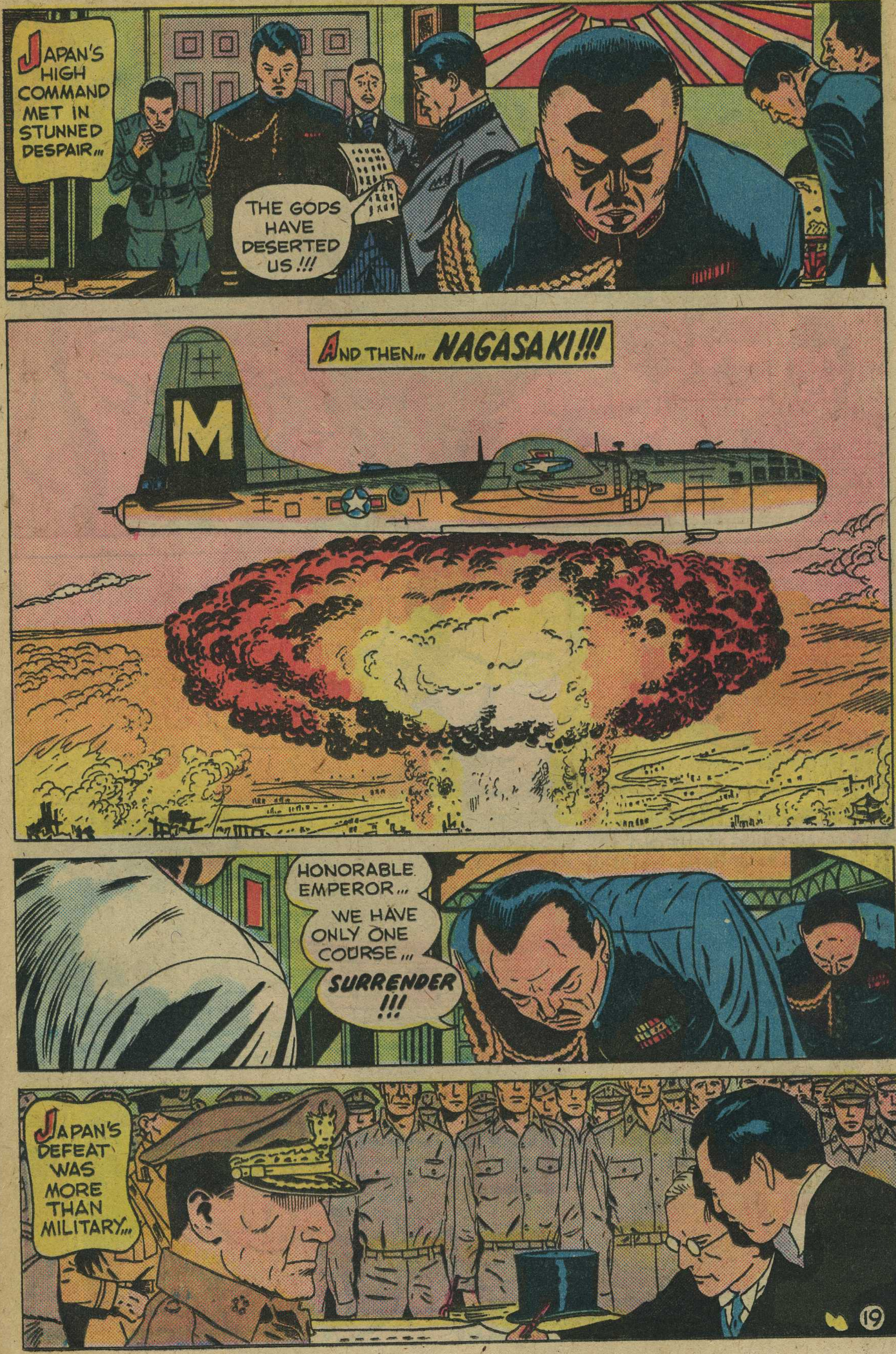

THEIR PRODUCTIVE CAPACITY IS GOING TO OVERWHELM US!!!
YESTERDAY, I SAW MORE OF THEIR PLANES OVER ONE TINY ISLAND THAN OUR INTELLIGENCE SAYS EXIST IN THE ENTIRE WORLD!!!
THE JAPANESE MIND COULDN'T ACCEPT THE POSSIBILITY OF DEFEAT!!!
OUR DIVINE EMPEROR IS A DIRECT DESCENDANT OF THE SUN GODDESS!!!
WE CANNOT FAIL!!!
THE GODS SMILE ON US!!!
BUT LATER... REALITY TOOK OVER...
MANCHURIA
JAPAN
WE ARE ON THE DEFENSIVE!!!
IWOJIMA
WAKE
FORMOSA
LUZON
PHILIPPINES
SAIPAN
GUAM
LEYTE
MINDANAO
LOOK AT THE AMERICAN ADVANCE!!!
ALL OF OUR ISLAND OUTPOSTS ARE GONE!!!
WE ARE LOSING FOUR MEN TO EVERY U.S. CASUALTY!!!
15


MITSUO, YOU WILL HELP PREPARE FOR THE DEFENSE OF OUR HOMELAND...
THE DEFENSE STAFF WILL MEET IN HIROSHIMA!!!
LATER... IN HIROSHIMA...
IF THE U.S. INVADES JAPAN IT WILL COST FIVE MILLION LIVES...
FOUR MILLION WILL BE OURS!!!
WE CAN EXPECT THE INVASION HERE...
CAPTAIN FUCHIDA...
...YOU ARE ORDERED TO LEAVE HIROSHIMA IMMEDIATELY... AND RETURN TO TOKYO...
AND NOW BEGINS AN INCREDIBLE SERIES OF EVENTS!!!


THE NEXT MORNING IN HIROSHIMA...


AND IN TOKYO...
THE REPORTS FROM HIROSHIMA ARE STAGGERING !!!
WHAT IS THIS HORROR FROM THE SKY ???
17


FUCHIDA, WE'RE SENDING YOU BACK TO HIROSHIMA...
...WITH A TEAM TO INVESTIGATE THE DESTRUCTION !!!
IT IS UNBELIEVABLE !!!
I CANNOT EVEN FIND THE SITE OF THE HOTEL I STAYED IN YESTERDAY !!!
HOW CAN ONE DESCRIBE SUCH A SCENE ???
OR COMPREHEND IT?
WHATEVER DID THIS IS THE ULTIMATE WEAPON !!!
18

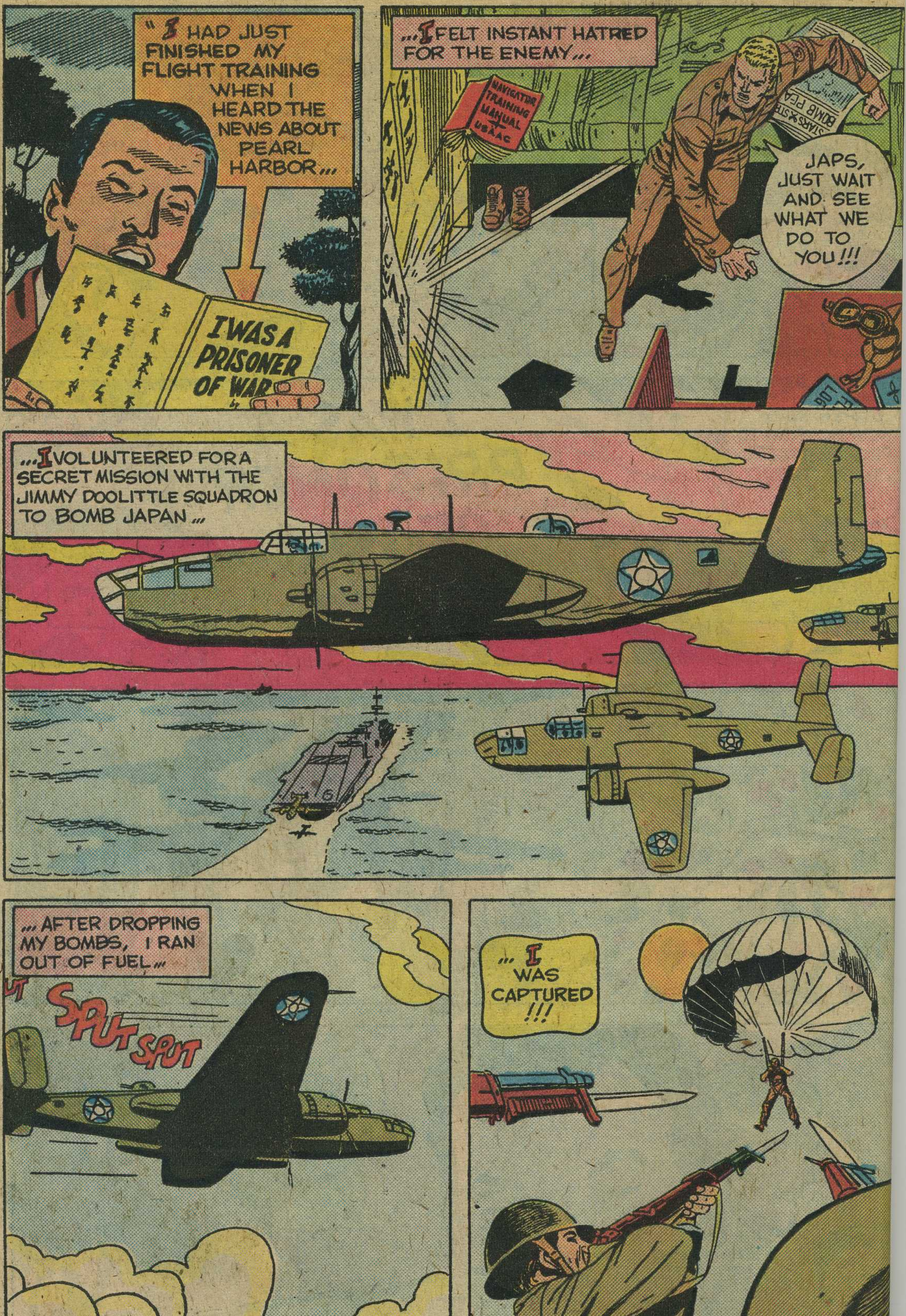

JAPAN'S HIGH COMMAND MET IN STUNNED DESPAIR...
THE GODS HAVE DESERTED US!!!
AND THEN... NAGASAKI!!!
M
HONORABLE EMPEROR... WE HAVE ONLY ONE COURSE... SURRENDER!!!
JAPAN'S DEFEAT WAS MORE THAN MILITARY...
19


THERE WAS NO GAS FOR CARS...
... FEW TRAINS FOR TRAVELERS...
... ALMOST NO JOBS...
SORRY NO HELP WANTED
...LINES... SHORTAGES...ECONOMIC COLLAPSE!!!
THE NATION THAT BELIEVED ITS EMPEROR TO BE DIVINE HEARD HIM MAKE A CONFESSION...
I AM NOT A GOD...
I AM MERELY A MORTAL...
ALL MEANING WENT OUT OF LIFE IN JAPAN...
AND FOR THE FIRST TIME IN TWENTY YEARS, MITSUO FUCHIDA SET ASIDE HIS UNIFORM...
20


HE TRIED TO MAKE A NEW LIFE ON A FAMILY FARM...
... BUT EVEN THAT LIFE WAS THREATENED!!!
MITSUO !!!
WERE YOU NOT PART OF THE TEAM THAT INSPECTED THE DESTRUCTION AT HIROSHIMA ???
YES...
TOKYO TIMES
ALL THESE MEN COMPLAIN OF STRANGE SYMPTOMS...
...THAT BAFFLE THE DOCTORS !!!
TOKYO TIMES
WE BELIEVE IT IS SOME KIND OF RADIATION FROM THE BOMB...
21


EVENTUALLY, OF THE 13 MEN WHO INSPECTED HIROSHIMA, 12 DIED!!! ONLY MITSUO REMAINED ALIVE!!!
WHY HAVE I BEEN SPARED THIS MYSTERIOUS DEATH???
WHY???...
OSPITAL
MITSUO WAS TO FIND HIS ANSWER IN TOKYO...
CAPTAIN FUCHIDA, YOU'VE BEEN CALLED AS A CHARACTER WITNESS!!!
THE WAR CRIMES TRIALS HAD BEGUN!!!
ONE DAY AS MITSUO LEFT THE COURTHOUSE...
AN AMERICAN CIVILIAN!!!
HE DRAWS SUCH CROWDS!!!
22


WHAT OCCURS ???
THE YANKEE GIVES AWAY PRECIOUS PAPER!!!
PAPER WAS NOW SO SCARCE, PEOPLE EAGERLY TOOK THE TRACT!!!
I WAS A PRISONER OF WAR by JACOB DESHAZER
...THEY INSERTED IT IN THE SOLES OF WORN-OUT SHOES...
...THEY USED THE BORDERS FOR WRITING PAPER...
BUT GOD GAVE MITSUO FUCHIDA A FAR BETTER PURPOSE!!!
MAY I HAVE ONE ALSO ???
SURE, PAL!!!
GOD BLESS YA!
THIS MAY RELATE TO THE WAR TRIALS...
I SHALL READ IT!!!

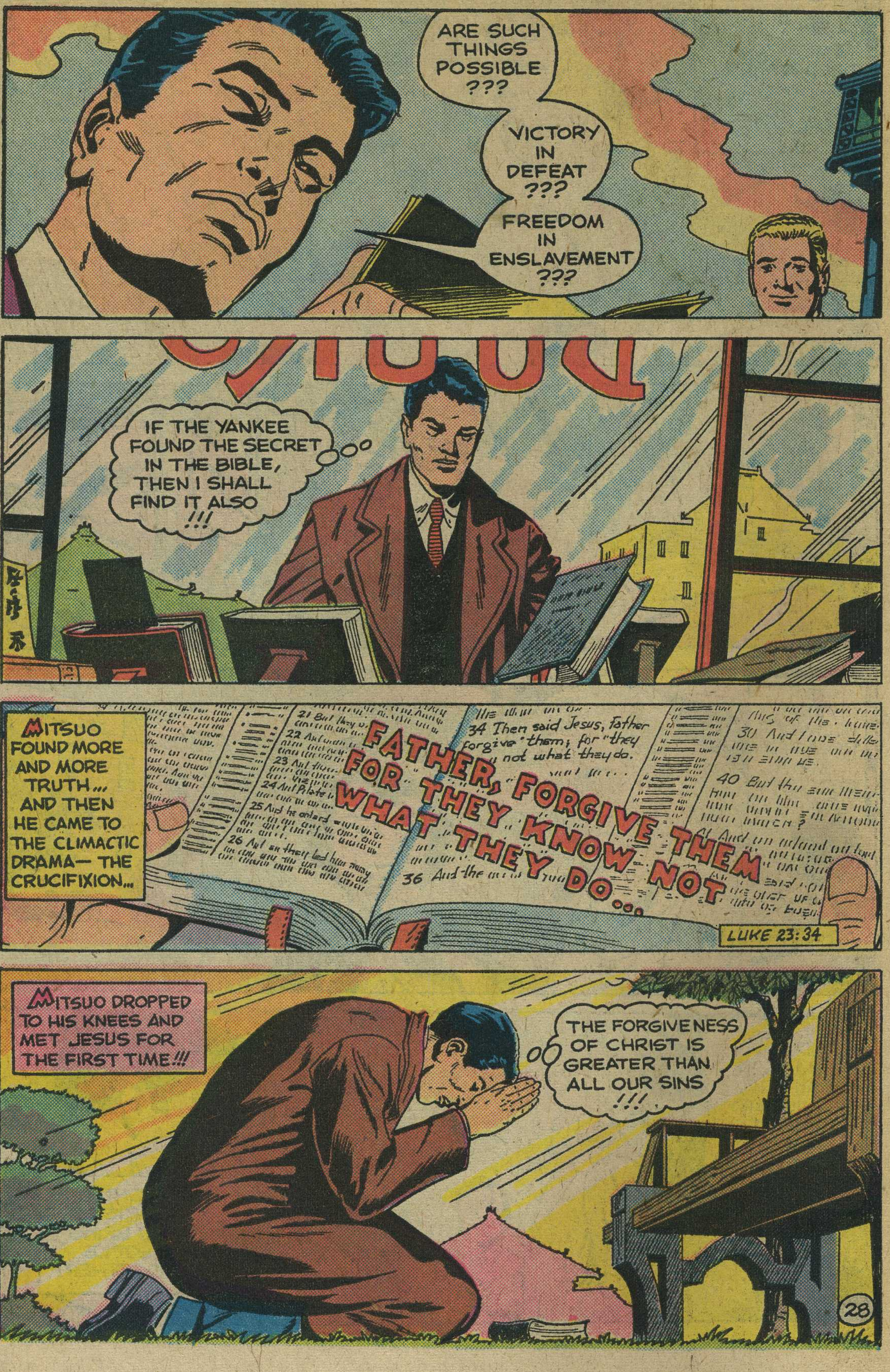

"I HAD JUST FINISHED MY FLIGHT TRAINING WHEN I HEARD THE NEWS ABOUT PEARL HARBOR...
I WAS A PRISONER OF WAR
...I FELT INSTANT HATRED FOR THE ENEMY...
NAVIGATOR TRAINING MANUAL USAAC
JAPS, JUST WAIT AND SEE WHAT WE DO TO YOU!!!
...I VOLUNTEERED FOR A SECRET MISSION WITH THE JIMMY DOOLITTLE SQUADRON TO BOMB JAPAN...
...AFTER DROPPING MY BOMBS, I RAN OUT OF FUEL...
SPUT SPUT
...I WAS CAPTURED!!!
24


...I SPENT 40 LONG MONTHS AS A PRISONER OF WAR... 34 OF THEM IN SOLITARY!!!
...I WAS STARVED AND TORTURED, BUT MY HATRED FOR THE ENEMY WAS AN EVEN GREATER TYRANNY!
...AFTER ONE OF MY FELLOW PRISONERS DIED OF STARVATION, MY HATRED NEARLY DROVE ME CRAZY!!!
...AND THEN I RECALLED ALL I HAD HEARD ABOUT CHRIST CHANGING HATE INTO LOVE!!!
...I PLEADED WITH MY CAPTORS FOR MONTHS, AND FINALLY GOT MY HANDS ON A BIBLE!!!
HOLY BIBLE
CONCORDANCE
...AND GOD GAVE ME NEW SPIRITUAL EYES!!!


I SAW CHRIST AS MY PERSONAL SAVIOUR... MY OWN SINS WERE FORGIVEN !!!
AND AS I LOOKED AT THE ENEMY GUARDS, MY BITTER HATRED CHANGED TO LOVING PITY!!!
WHEN I SLID TO MY KNEES TO PRAY, THE GUARDS RUSHED IN AND PUNISHED ME!!!
BUT I KEPT RIGHT ON PRAYING...
26



AT LAST AMERICANS DROPPED INTO OUR PRISON AND FREED ME !!!
P.O.W.
I WAS FLOWN BACK TO AMERICA !!!
AND SLOWLY REGAINED MY STRENGTH !!!
AND NOW I'M BACK IN JAPAN AS A MISSIONARY SHARING GOD'S TRUTH...
...ONLY CHRIST CAN BRING PEOPLE TOGETHER!"
I WAS A PRISONER OF WAR
27


ARE SUCH THINGS POSSIBLE ???
VICTORY IN DEFEAT ???
FREEDOM IN ENSLAVEMENT ???
IF THE YANKEE FOUND THE SECRET IN THE BIBLE, THEN I SHALL FIND IT ALSO !!!
MITSUO FOUND MORE AND MORE TRUTH... AND THEN HE CAME TO THE CLIMACTIC DRAMA— THE CRUCIFIXION...
FATHER, FORGIVE THEM FOR THEY KNOW NOT WHAT THEY DO...
LUKE 23:34
MITSUO DROPPED TO HIS KNEES AND MET JESUS FOR THE FIRST TIME!!!
THE FORGIVENESS OF CHRIST IS GREATER THAN ALL OUR SINS !!!
28

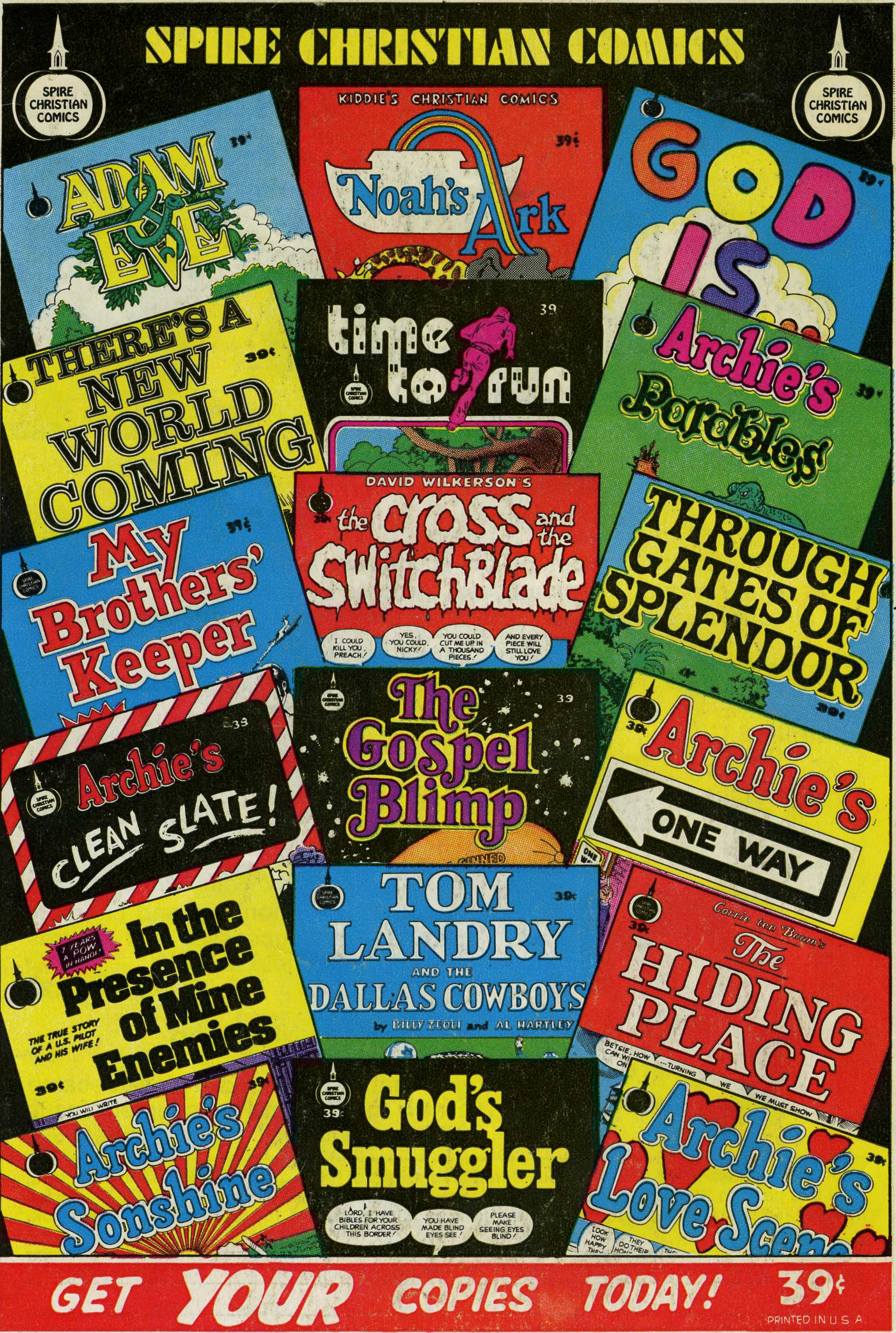

BEHOLD!!! MITSUO HAS A DIFFERENT LOOK!!!
AND HE ACTS DIFFERENTLY !!!
I AM DIFFERENT !!!
I AM A CHRISTIAN !!!
HOW CAN YOU BE A CHRISTIAN ???
THERE IS NO CHURCH HERE!!!
I JOINED CHRIST...
NOT A CHURCH !!!
TOKYO TIMES
PEARL HARBOR HERO CONVERTS TO CHRISTIANITY
CAPTAIN MITSUO FUCHIDA
YOU BETRAY OUR BELOVED COUNTRY !!!
29


TRAITOR!
YOU EMBRACE THIS WESTERN RELIGION TO IMPRESS OUR AMERICAN VICTORS !!!
CHRISTIANITY IS NOT A RELIGION...
IT IS A RELATIONSHIP !!!
AND I EMBRACED CHRIST BECAUSE I FELT HIS LOVE FOR ME...
LOVE ???
YOUR CHRISTIAN BROTHERS DROPPED ATOMIC BOMBS ON HIROSHIMA AND NAGASAKI !!!
THOSE BOMBS ENDED THE WAR !!!
THEY SAVED 5 MILLION LIVES !!!
DO NOT FORGET...
WE STARTED THAT WAR...
...AND THE WAR TRIALS REVEAL THAT MANY OF OUR COUNTRYMEN HAVE BROUGHT DISGRACE TO OUR LAND !!!
30


PEOPLE WILL ALWAYS FAIL... BUT CHRIST NEVER FAILS !!!
THIS BOOK TEACHES US TO KEEP OUR EYES ON GOD...
NOT ON MAN !!!
JAPAN HAS THE HIGHEST LITERACY RATE IN THE WORLD...
BUT WE HAVE BEEN READING THE WRONG THINGS!!!
OUR PEOPLE MUST LEARN THAT CHRIST IS THE ONLY HOPE FOR THIS TROUBLED WORLD!
WE HAVE WORSHIPPED FALSE GODS...
AND SEE WHERE THEY HAVE LED US!!!
WE HAVE PEACE NOW... THROUGH DEFEAT!!! CHRIST BRINGS PEACE... THROUGH VICTORY !!!
31



JESUS SAYS: I AM THE WAY, THE TRUTH AND THE LIFE. JOHN 14:6


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